giving State-wise the number of warehouses and foodgrains stored therein by the Food Corporation of India as on 31-1-1985, 31-3-1986 and 31-12-1986 is laid on the Table of the House,

[Placed in Library. See LT No. 3735/87]

(b) Steps were taken to increase the storage capacity by construction of additional capacity and by hiring capacity from various sources. A statement giving State-wise the storage capacity constructed by the Corporation during April, 1985 to January, 1987 and the capacity under construction at present is attached. Another statement indicating the centres at which the storage copacity was constructed during the period and the centres at which it is under construction at present is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library, See LT No. 3735/87].

The State-wise break-down of the expenditure incurred on the construction of these warehouses is not readily available with the Corporation.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) The quantity of foodgrains damaged during 1985-86 was 0.87 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 11.44 crores.

[English]

Regularisation of Extra Departmental **Employees**

77. PROF, K V. THOMAS : Will

the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Extra Departmental employees now working in the Communications Department;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to regularise them; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to revise their allowances?

THE MINISIER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) 2,59,042 as on 31-3-86.

- (b) No. Sir. An Extra Departmental Agent, who performs only part time job for the Department for fixed hours of work on consideration of a consolidated monthly allowance, cannot, in the very nature of things, be regarded as full time Government servants Therefore there is no question of regularising the services of ED Agents against regular departmental posts. However, they are selected to Group D/Postmen cadres on the basis of their seniority, provided they qualify the written test to be conducted for the purpose subject to certain conditions.
- (c) The remuneration of Extra-departmental Agents are revised annually in the context of price rise. These have been revised from 1-9-86 in the statem nt given below.

Statement

Category of ED Agents	Revised Allowances	
	Minimum Rs.	Maximum Rs.
(a) EDSPM/ED Sorters/ED Record Clerks	292	360
(b) EDBPMs .	202	254
(c) E.D. Stamp Vendors	202	254
(d) Other E. D Agents		
(i) Working for 2 hours or more (ii) Working for less than 2 hours 174 (fi	199 xed)	242